

January 27, 1976

mination. It isn't mandatory. They can look into the merits of the case, even though somebody hasn't come in and filed a formal objection, and then it provides an addition that costs, in case somebody comes before the Commission and they are not granted a license, then they can be assessed the cost, if there is reason for not granting it, cost against them. That is all.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion? Senator Richard Lewis.

SENATOR R. LEWIS: Mr. President, I would like to direct a question to Senator DeCamp, if I might. Would you yield? Senator DeCamp, I have had quite a lot of dissatisfaction in my District with municipalities, the city councils refusing to okay a liquor permit and a strong local sentiment against issuing one, and yet the Liquor Commission has over the objections of these people issued these permits. Now would you be agreeable to amending this amendment to say that if there is an objection, they shall not issue a permit.

SENATOR DeCAMP: No, no, because that would completely change the direction of the law. Let me explain what would happen. All that would have to happen then would be any liquor license holder would go file an objection to stop anybody else from getting a permit and I am sure you don't want that. Are you talking about, if the city voted no, or what?

SENATOR R. LEWIS: Yes. If a municipality, if a city council objected to issuing a license within that municipality, would you object to changing this so that that license was not issued, then, over the objections of the city council.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Let me explain it this way, I would neither agree or disagree with that. It might be a good policy, I don't know. I don't think it would be proper to put it on this bill or a bill out here right now without going through a public hearing because it is a pretty significant change and all this really is is a technical correction. For example, the cost part just says that whoever loses has to pay the cost which is a traditional court procedure. It just wasn't written in the law for the Liquor Commission. So I am not saying I agree or disagree with your idea. It is just that this bill is not the place. Do you understand what I mean?

SENATOR R. LEWIS: I understand what you mean. I think it could be done on this bill, however.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Oh, it definitely could. It is just that I would hate to be the one responsible for having thrown it in there and said, ya, I agree or I don't agree, because this bill wasn't intended, at least this amendment that I have, wasn't intended to be controversial at all and I don't think this is even my bill, is it?